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# AMMAA NEWS

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*Grandmother and Grandchild Studying the Bible Together*



## MOTHERS' DAY AND MINISTERS

By G.H. Chopourian



G.H. Chopourian

I was tempted to entitle this editorial "M & M" but reluctantly gave the full title for fear you might have understood I was talking about candies! My intention is much more serious than that.

Dr. Carnegie S. Calian has an important postscript to his book "Today's Pastor in Tomorrow's World."

He writes about a pleasant Sunday afternoon when he visited a husband and wife committed to and active in Church life. Bob, the youngest son of the couple, still attending college, had found church meaningful and sometimes considered becoming a pastor. Bob was blessed with a good mind, was compassionate, attractive and imaginative. He had also all the capacity to become a medical doctor, physicist, biologist, scientist, mathematician or a man of literature and history. Bob's parents indicated during the conversation that Bob was still in quandary about the choice of a career. When the parents were told that Bob would make a great pastor, they began to explain that entering the ministry is really a private affair between God and the individual. Asked further as to what they would think if Bob would opt for a medical profession or become a physicist, the mother replied: "Why we would be thrilled and encourage him."

Why is it that parents are ready to encourage their children to become doctors or physicists, but keep silent about their children's decision for the pastoral ministry? Parents are hardly neutral when it comes to the career goals of their children. Why are they neutral when a child is ready to decide for the ministry?

It looks as though the laity who are most active in the church are often the very persons who prefer that their own sons and daughters avoid careers in the church. If such silence or discouragement is to be practiced, what hope is there for the advancement of the church of God?

A quick reflection will reveal that "A Golden Age of Evangelical Christianity" occurred in the latter part of the nineteenth century in Cilician Armenia. Literally, thousands of Armenian Evangelical ministers were trained, with some of them becoming great theologians, pulpit giants, professors, and teachers.

The reasons for such a "Golden Age" development are numerous. In the first place, the spiritual eyes of thousands of Armenians were opened who began to feel responsibility for others imposed upon them by the call of Christ. A further consideration was the inflow into Cilician Armenia of thousands of dedicated and devoted American missionaries whose exemplary Christian life led many to walk in their steps. A third important development was the enlightenment of minds through an effective educational system. It appears to this writer, however, that the more fundamental cause was the great admiration and respect with which mothers viewed the ministry. There was nothing greater! For many spiritually enlightened mothers, therefore, there was nothing greater for their children to engage in than in the field

of Christian service—than being preachers, teachers, nurses, welfare workers.

Now, from where did they receive their inspiration? From no where else but the Scriptures.

The model was the mother of Samuel. Let us recall that beautiful story in 1st Samuel, Chapter One. Hannah had no children. Like any devoted married wife, she wanted a child very badly. She believed in prayer and went to the temple and pleaded with such passion and outspoken prayer that Eli, the priest, thought she had been drinking. In that prayer she vowed a vow and said: "LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head." God heard the prayer, a son was born and she took him to the temple after weaning him saying: "For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him: Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD."

Many an Armenian Evangelical mother followed the inspiration arising out of Hannah's story. Many prayed that their children might commit themselves to Christ and his Kingdom.

The pressure of mothers on their children was not of course *always* salutary. Some youth entered the ministry who were unqualified as prospective leaders. By and large, however, those entering Christian Service accounted more than well for themselves.

In contrast, parents today do not seem to suggest the ministry even as an available option. The reasons: meagre salaries, congregation's harsh criticisms, unlimited expectations in all areas of life, a thankless job. Parents fail to see the other side of the coin: a profession with a built-in growth factor, unusual public honor, fulfillment on bringing about changed lives, marginal benefits that only one practicing the profession can know, and a name in history!

Robert K. Hudnut's testimony is in place here:

"I have just had a harrowing experience. I have spent the last two years as a layperson.

This means I have lived with, among other things, the constant fear of losing my job, with a 40 percent salary cut, with no raises to offset inflation, with sixty-to-seventy-hour weeks, and with virtually no time, because of the demands of my job, for church. You learn something.

I not only lost financial security, I also lost some emotional security as well. No longer are you told on the first day of the week what a great job you're doing. No longer do you spend a great deal of your time 'helping people'. Your fellow employees are fine people and good friends, but you are not as close to them as you were to your brothers and sisters in church."

Parents! Do not fail to present the *option* to your children. You might be cheating them of something great.

I believe that Armenian Evangelical greatness will once again be our portion when mothers and fathers begin to look upon the ministry and Christian service as the noblest of all professions.

## SOME THOUGHTS ON THE REVISED ROLE OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES

By Lucina Agbabian Hubbard



Lucina Agbabian Hubbard

The following is an article by Lucina Agbabian Hubbard, a well trained musician of Armenian ancestry "with a true, flexible voice, a pleasing stage presence, and an ability to communicate with her hearers"

The article is written as a result of a conversation between Miss Hubbard and our Executive Director, Dr. G.H. Chopourian, on the possibility of organizing a concert tour sponsored by the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America and the Armenian Missionary Association.

In a letter addressed to the Editor she writes:

"As you know, it was neither the financial gain nor love for travel that attracted me to the idea of the concert tour. Certainly I enjoy singing to new audiences, and I would like to think that there could be proceeds for a good cause; but what I find most rewarding is to sing Armenian sacred and secular music in a concert setting on the same program as the Western concert repertoire. That way I feel I am making

the same statement through programming that I have made verbally in the enclosed article.

When and if the churches want to sponsor such a concert, then I shall be happy to share with them what I learned from organizing my own recital of March six (1977).

We are looking forward to sponsor three concerts—Boston, New York/New Jersey, Philadelphia areas—towards end of March and beginning of April, 1978. Editor

The valuable contributions of the Armenian Evangelical Church to the religious education of the young and old, and its pioneering work in educating Armenian women, is an indisputable fact for which I have been grateful. After observing the Armenian Evangelical Church in its new home, the United States, and comparing what it had to offer with that of the numerous Protestant churches surrounding it, I became convinced in time that the primary reason for its existence and perpetuation now lies in its Armenian character. The Church has already branched out from its historical emphasis of strictly preaching the gospel, into humanitarian and educational services as well on a fairly large scale. In addition, it has been sponsoring social and fund-raising activities, such as luncheons, banquets, picnics, basketball games, instead of conducting religious meetings exclusively and relying solely on tithing. These adjustments to the new life-style have been considered necessary, and activities of this type occupy considerable space on the church calendar. However, sadly neglected in the comprehensive program of the Evangelical Church is the inclusion of cultural and edu-

(Contd. on page 4)

### The Inspirational Corner

#### THAT'S THE KIND OF MOTHER I WANT TO BE

(Taken from the "Pilgrim's Progress" of the Pilgrim Church, Fresno)

A composition written by a little girl had this to say about her mother: "When I grow up, I want to be a mother like my mom. I don't know any other mother I could love so much. She is the only mother that there is nothing wrong with her. She never scolds, she is never tired, she never forgets stories about when she was a little girl. She always knows what to do when I cut my finger or spill ink on my dress or get chewing gum in my hair. She is a perfect cook and a beautiful lady. That's the kind of mother I want to be."

Happy is the mother whose children rise up and call her blessed and whose daughters are inspired to want to be like her. Happy is the father whose children take him for their ideal of fatherhood, and whose sons resolve in their souls to be a man as he is.

A happy childhood with loving and devoted parents is the best school for the making of future fathers and mothers. But not all of us are privileged to have such homes. We, as children, also have a great responsibility and opportunity to help make our homes an inspiration to our parents instead of a heartache.

No one is more conscious of the fact than mom and dad that parents are not perfect. It is the right of parents to ex-

pect more of their children than they have been given or able to achieve. Each succeeding generation has more knowledge, more privileges, more opportunities, more material possessions and more spiritual resources available.

None of us are our own. We all have been given life by the Great Father of us all that we might add a little more love, loving-kindness and happiness to the human race. Whatever our vocation may be, we are under the obligation to use our time and talents to uplift our brethren rather than be a pain and a burden to them.

Parenthood is cooperation with God in His great purpose to save the world with love and compassion. We are given the opportunity to fashion the soul of children in the image of God, not after that soul has become wrapped and bruised and twisted by years of sin and fear, but when it is new, innocent and impressionable.

Each one of us should ask, "Am I making myself such a man or a woman as I shall want my children to be?"

O God, we give you humble thanks for the example of devoted women, and especially this day, for our mothers; help us to cherish among us the warmth of mother's love, the protection of a mother's prayer and the inspiration of a mother's forgiveness. Amen.



## ARPIAR GOPOIAN ESTABLISHES ENDOWMENT FUND IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS PARENTS

Mr. Arpiar Gopoian of Watertown, Mass. recently established an Endowment Fund with the AMAA in the amount of \$2,000 in remembrance of his parents, Haroutune and Mariam Gopoian, formerly of Chemishgazak of the province of Kharpert.

The income of the Fund has been designated for distribution to the Armenian Evangelical Church of Yerevan. Arpiar Gopoian's long-time desire had all along been to assign such a fund but difficulties in transmittals of moneys delayed his action to remember his beloved parents in this way. We are happy that he will now use the medium



Haroutune Gopoyan  
(1927 Photo)

of the AMAA to fulfill his cherished desire.

Arpiar Gopoian, married to the former Flora Tovmassian of Lebanon in 1947, was born in the U.S. in 1908 and was engaged in off-set printing work with Sperry Rand Corporation of Boston until his retirement in 1973.

He has been a member of the First Armenian Church of Belmont since



Mariam Gopoyan  
(1945 Photo)

1946 at which time it was known as the First Armenian Evangelical Church of Cambridge. His passion, even as a U.S. born Armenian, for Armenian language and heritage is intense. He proudly claims: "My parents raised me as an Armenian." It is this heritage that prompts him to assign the annual income of the Fund for Armenian Evangelical work in Armenia.

(Contd. from page 3)

cational activities with emphasis on the Armenian heritage, the very feature that assures its reason for existence in the present climate. The Armenian Evangelical Church outside Moslem and Catholic countries is surrounded with a Christian culture that is deceptively similar, yet unlike that of the Armenian Christian. Such an environment is a privilege to live in; yet the basic ingredient of this privilege is a citizen's freedom to keep his identity, without which he could not feel genuine. The Armenian Christian, different from the Anglo-Saxon Christian, or the Latin, or the Greek, has an identity which is a curious blend of his cultural, traditional, social and moral values intertwined with his religious values over sixteen proud centuries of heroic self-preservation and growth. He is an Armenian, good and loyal citizen of the countries he lives in, but no more in a melting pot than any other national group, major or minor; nor does he stand to gain anything by insisting on that now abandoned concept. It seems to me that unless the characteristic 'Armenian' Evangelical character of the church is cultivated, it will have nothing more to offer to Armenians than the thousands of Protestant churches available for them in the Western countries in which they live.

A prerequisite for accepting and feeling comfortable with ourselves in living among other nations seems to be a well-informed conception of who we are: our national psychology, attitudes in time of peace and danger towards festivity and tragedy and toward the old and the young, our values in various periods of our national existence, etc. Fortunately, this type of information is available to us through the oral, written and living tradition of transmitted works in the fields of politics, history, literature, law, science, music, customs and folklore. Based on the Armenian heritage and the availability of twentieth century knowledge and technique, Armenians in their homeland and abroad are now contributing significantly to the world at large, and to a better appreciation of the Armenian people. These are the scientists, thinkers, businessmen, craftsmen, poets, artists, architects, musicians and philanthropists, whose works bear

the stamp of originality and admitted Armenianism. Perpetuating the Armenian heritage has distinct advantages for the individual, who enjoys an added dimension to his self-knowledge, as well as to the Armenian people all over the world who receive the support of their brothers when other nations could be indifferent to their needs, or simply are unable to help.

The Armenian Evangelical Church has all the above-mentioned benefits to reap for the community it serves, besides ensuring its own survival as such, by cultivating a more comprehensive Armenian Heritage program. Some churches offer Armenian history and language classes, publish Armenian newsletters, books and even cookbooks. The Church publicly claims its identity with the inclusion of the word 'Armenian' in its title, and the Armenian language in its services. However, except for ten Sharagans included in the hymnbook currently used, all the hymns represent European poets and music of non-Armenian origin, often adapted for sacred use. We have among us noted poets and composers nurtured on the Armenian Christian heritage, who are capable of expressing themselves in the Armenian idiom even if not always in the language. They could provide us with hymns and special sacred music which we could call our own, provided we put forth an effort to commission such works. In order to develop appreciation, and nurture future talent, our churches could make it a part of their program to present literary and musical evenings, where Armenian works are presented along with non-Armenian works on the same level, and given the same importance. The same approach could be applied to all the branches of the arts in which Armenians are now active. Thus, in our acceptance of the culture around us we will have enriched our own, without unnecessarily denying, nor merely hanging on to our past. For us, the challenge is to consciously recognize and accept our identity as 'Armenian Christians' or 'Armenian Evangelicals,' to preserve and contribute to this heritage individually and collectively through our various organizations and churches.

## MISSIONS AT WORK

### MUSIC Raises Funds For AMAA's Lebanon Relief for Children



Vahe Berberian

Sunday, March 27, 1977 was a special day for the Armenian Evangelical Community of greater Washington D.C. The Armenian Presbyterian Ladies' Aid Society had organized a Lenten Service with the special music of composer VAHE A. BERBERIAN\* entitled "The Crucifixion". It was followed by a buffet supper.

The success of the event established three records for the Armenian Evangelical Community in Washington D.C.: (a) the largest turnout in a given service as more than 200 people were present; (b) the largest amount of money collection from the offertory; (c) the largest amount of money raised from the buffet supper.

This project was campaigned by the composer for the unselfish reason "to raise money for our deprived Armenian children in Lebanon, through the AMAA" as stated by Mr. Berberian. The proceeds will be used to buy milk and food for hungry Armenian children in Lebanon.

The Rev. Peter Doghramji\*\*, Pastor of the Philadelphia Church, led the service at 4:30 p.m., and preached (in English and Armenian) the sermon entitled, "Pilate's Paradox". St. Mary's Armenian Apostolic Church was full with an estimated 200 participants. Bishop Papken Varjabedian, the Very Rev. Vertanes Kalayjian, pastor of the host church, and the Rev. Sahag Vertanessian, pastor of the Holy Cross Armenian Apostolic Church, graced the service with their presence. Miss Dolores Seqiera was at the organ, and Miss Dora Manoukian was the Soprano Soloist. The new Armenian Evangelical Hymnal was used by the worshippers through the generosity of the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

A 20-minutes segment of the service was Mr. Berberian's "The Crucifixion," played by a 30-piece orchestra and conducted by the composer himself. Mr. Berberian introduced his composition and dedicated it to the Armenian Community of Greater Washington. He made a moving plea that the worshipers make a generous contribution in appreciation of his music to the AMAA Children's Overseas Relief Fund in Lebanon. It was indeed a moving experience to listen to his music as it portrayed the various stages of the passion and crucifixion of our Lord, culminating in His death and the Resurrection. The buffet supper which followed the service was the occasion for socializing as well as nourishment.



Vahe Berberian conducting 34-piece Doris McLoughlin Orchestra in the "Crucifixion"

Praise be to the Lord for the unusually great opportunities we have to bring about spiritual and moral survival.



ECUMENICITY ROUND THE TABLE: Bishop Papken Varjabedian, the Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji, the Very Rev. Vertanes Kalayjian, and the Rev. Sahag Vertanessian.

Praise be to the Lord for the numerous friends of the AMAA who help us in our endeavors to support extremely useful programs overseas, and specially in Lebanon at a time when destruction of homes, businesses and buildings has left more and more Armenians without jobs, homes, food and clothing.

The March 27 project was one of concern, love and understanding, which came to prove once again that Armenians all over the world care for fellow Armenians, and as long as this spirit dwells in us, we shall survive.

\* Vahe A. Berberian was born in Lebanon and is the son of the late Rev. Assadour G. Berberian. Coming to the United States in 1957, he received his Bachelor's Degree in music from Eastern Michigan University and a Master's from American University.

Like all good music makers, Berberian's creations similarly have come out of suffering. His heart condition and physical sufferings have brought him to see life in a far more spiritual depth than ever and have led him to create beautiful and inspirational music.

Note: The AMAA Office has a large number of Mr. Berberian's records for two of his creations: The Lord's Prayer and My Lord, My Lord I Love You. We believe our Armenian compatriots should have these records in their homes for real enjoyment.

\*\*Contents of this article were gleaned from the thorough report by the Rev. Dr. Peter B. Doghramji.

My daily bread is an economic matter; but the bread of my brother is a spiritual matter

—the seven last words of a dying church:.....We have always done it that way



GIVING THE EASY WAY IF YOU CARE TO ....

Have you ever considered giving a substantial amount of money to the Church or to the Religious organization that you believe in? Have you thought about it and not been physically able to do so? Would you like to see how this can be done on a very inexpensive basis, where you only put out a few pennies every month and guarantee a large dollar sometime in the future? Would you like to see how this program would reduce federal estate taxes and state inheritance taxes, but still give you the flexibility of controlling your charitable contributions? Yes, this can be done, *through the magic of Life Insurance as a charitable donation, if you care.*

If you are interested, we have the ability of putting your estate into a computer and showing you what your estate costs are going to be without any planning at all, with just some minor changes by the use of wills, trusts, and the use of charitable contributions to your favorite religious organization.

If you are interested, please contact our reliable area representatives at the following addresses and telephone numbers:

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Garden City, New York 11530  
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*Northern New Jersey*  
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Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.  
48 Sheridan St.  
Lodi, N.J. 07644  
Tel: (201) 777 - 3422 or  
(201) 342 - 4254

*California*  
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New York Life Insurance  
1300 W. Shaw Ave., Suite 3D  
Fresno, CA. 93711  
Tel: (209) 224 - 9000

THE NEWEST DISEASE: "YOU KNOW"

© G.H. Chopourian

If you are in the mistaken belief that the "Legionnaires Disease" was the newest with which we were faced, I should like to put the record straight and call to your attention one that is newer than that. It is called: "YOU KNOW."

I am really getting frightened of this latest disease because it is connected with speech and its source, the brain. The danger as I see it, lies in its being an impediment to speech and smooth literary style. Its continued use will weaken style, becloud clear thinking, and expose the speaker to be ignorant or one unable to express himself.

Allow me to diagnose the disease by a humorous anecdote spoken on a Television talk-show. A friend relates to his "pal" something harrowing that had happened. The "pal" discounted his friend's story in this way. "You think you have trouble. Let me tell you... you know... I had this, how shall I say it ...? you know ... I had this experience ... you know ... oh, boy! It was terrible ... you know ... you wouldn't believe it. It was awful ... you know. So awful ... you know ... you know what I mean?"

Finally, after all that effort, both the youthful speaker and the listener remained as uninformed as when the speaker began speaking.

One might be tempted to think the disease in confined to the youth. The parents of the youth have picked it up too. So have teachers, professors, doctors! It has come to replace that former intellectual deficiency when in the older days most of us used to go "I was in the habit ...uh, uh, uh ... of and

which ...uh, uh, uh ... I never gave up."

How would you like to hear your pastor go "you knowing?" Well, it's happening. I was recently with a large group of ministers, 75% of whom went "You knowing".

If the diagnosis would be accepted as valid, the treatment could be simple and the prognosis hopeful. If you wake up some day and find this latest killer has taken away our proficiency in language, don't say you were not alerted!

Let us *stop* the killer of clear thinking and smooth literary expression *right away*.

**JULY 4TH PICNIC**  
Sponsored  
by the  
Armenian Missionary  
Association of America  
on the  
AMAA—APC Complex  
140 Forest Avenue  
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*This is an advance notice  
to alert you to reserve the  
date. We had a successful  
picnic last year.  
Don't miss the fun!  
Join us!*

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GLEANINGS FROM ..... A.E.U.N.A. MINISTERS' RETREAT

By Vincent J. Kumjian\*



Rev. Vincent Kumjian

Eastern area clergy met at the Framingham Conference Center on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd for their second annual retreat. This event was chaired by the Rev. Herald G. Hassessian, whose gracious wife, Siran, provided "goodies" to fill all between-meal snacks. The principal speakers were Mr. George Philibosian, Moderator of the A.E.U.N.A.; the Rev. Dr. Giragos Chopourian; and the Rev. Vartan Hartunian. Devotion leader was the Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji.

The retreat began on Sunday evening, and most of this time was reserved for representatives of the Armenian Protestant Youth Fellowship who asked that the clergy attend the A.P.Y.F. retreats, that they encourage local youth to attend, that a transition be provided for new converts to be nurtured by the local churches and the future need for young ministers was pointed out. The young ladies who spoke for the A.P.Y.F. were Eileen Ekmekjian from Montreal, Brenda Guregian from Philadelphia, and Mrs. Ruby Baboian from Belmont, Mass. The Rev. Joanne Hartunian participated as the Youth Advisor of the 1st Armenian Church of Belmont. A special request by the A.P.Y.F. was that the ministers from Troy, Detroit, and Chicago invite representatives from the A.P.Y.F. to meet with their youth.

Open discussions among the group touched on existing tensions between the youth group and the clergy; the need for youth representation at var-

ious levels of Church and A.E.U.N.A. committees; the necessity for making the youth aware of mission activities; and the critique of the "content" of the youth conferences and retreats.

Dr. Doghramji's devotional themes had to do with the Old Testament Prophets as Servants, Prophets, Priests, and the Royal Office of Christ.

Moderator George Philibosian of the A.E.U.N.A. welcomed the opportunity for the ministers to relax, exchange ideas, and be replenished spiritually. He had just visited Toronto, Detroit, and Chicago prior to his arrival at the retreat center. He remarked about Toronto's tremendous growth with the influx of new people from the Middle East, Detroit's strong and energetic congregation and Chicago's desire for better relations with the A.E.U.N.A.

Mr. Philibosian stressed the importance of "open channels of communication" between the Union and the churches. He made a special plea to the "Badvelis" to make the 75th Anniversary A.E.U.N.A. Campaign a success. After the existing fund-raising some future plan is needed for a continuous flow of funds to help our churches and clergy. "The AMAA and the A.E.U.N.A. are two arms of one body," he said. "It might be wise," he concluded, "to combine the strengths of these two units."

Dr. Chopourian thanked the ministers for organizing and adjusting their schedules to his schedule of church visitations. He emphasized that the public image of the AMAA outside the churches needs to be improved and Churches and Chapters of the AMAA can be very effective in doing this improvement by one special annual public project by each in a special place with planned publicity. Another area of improvement is in the area of missionary outreach and giving which might be cultivated by having special evening seminars about missions and stewardship for the entire congrega-

tion. A third area of emphasis was in having a concentrated effort for the endowment funds concept of the AMAA with income provisions for the local churches as well. He pleaded that we project priorities to our congregations and he suggested the order: Home, Church and Union, and the AMAA. The Executive Director explained the importance of involving youth in mission activities, and the A.M.A.A.'s need of an associate in its office.

Joining the ministers for Monday's session and lunch were the Reverends Zaven Dohanian and Charles Koomruian. The following ministers attended, who gave input as to their goals and expectations:

Joanne Hartunian, Bernard Guekguezian, Vahan H. Tootikian, Vartan Hartunian, Vincent J. Kumjian, Soghomon Nuyujukian, G.H. Chopourian, Zenas Ilanjan, Ardashes Kerbabian, Abraham K. Jizmejjan, Peter Doghramji, George A. Paboojian, Herald G. Hassessian and seminarian Bob Khachadourian.

One of the highlights of the retreat was a book review by Dr. Chopourian of Carnegie S. Calian's "Today's Pastor in Tomorrow's world". A review copy has been mailed to each AEU-NA pastor by the publisher on the request of the AMAA Headquarters. Extra copies of the book (cost \$6.95) may be ordered through Dr. Chopourian at a 25% discount.

The final session on Tuesday morning was uplifted with the sacrament of Holy Communion and the singing of hymns in Armenian. This writer is certain that God was observing this clergy get-together with a smile, and his blessing was bestowed on all who attended.

\* The Rev. V.J. Kumjian is Pastor of the United Armenian Calvary Congregational Church of Troy, New York.

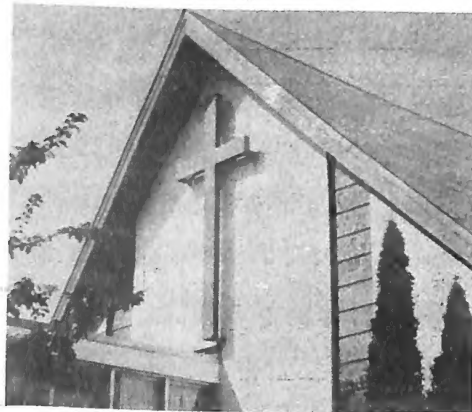


On his return on March 13th from AMAA work on the West Coast, the Executive Director began his church visitation work on the East Coast. Beginning with AMAA Sunday in the Armenian Martyr's Congregational Church of Havertown on March 20th, he spent about 3 weeks in New England beginning April 16th and returning to the office on May 4.

## WARM RECEPTION AT HAVERTOWN CHURCH

The AMAA Chapter of the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church of Havertown had made some practical arrangements under the guidance of the pastor of the Church, the Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji. The Executive Director preached the sermon and the President, Mr. Archie Cherkezian, gave an inspiring message which we quote:

"Last year, the year 1976, the city of Havertown, its big sister Philadelphia, and all their churches celebrated the 200th anniversary of the greatest document on human rights and human dignity yet conceived in this world, the Declaration of Independence.



Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church, Havertown, PA.

It was in these environs that a small group of dedicated souls, of Christian mien, proclaimed in ringing tones that masterpiece of freedom, liberty and charity to all—Democracy.

This year, the year 1977, we have gathered here in this house of God to rejoice in the 59th anniversary of yet another great experiment of charity and love—the Armenian Missionary Association.

And rightly so; for Havertown and formerly its big sister Philadelphia, contain the church which played such an incomparable and immeasurable

role in the continuing life of the Armenian Missionary Association.

Witness the leadership, the talent, the money and the heart that emanated from this church without which neither the spiritual expression of the Armenian Missionary Association or its pragmatic counterpart could have prevailed.

Consider some of these giants of devotion, men and women, whose untiring efforts for the cause is matched only by the unending needs of the wretched in many parts of the world:

The late Mr. Stephen Philibosian, his sister Miss Ruth Philibosian, his daughter Mrs. Joyce Philibosian Stein Jr., the late Mr. Martin Hatch, Mr. Nazar Daghljan, Mr. Charles DeMerjian, Mr. Albert Momjian, Mr. Set Momjian, Dr. Edward Kavjian, Dr. Kassouny, your beloved pastor the Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji and last but not least, your own former pastor, the guiding and working genius, who is the molder of the clay and the binder of the cement of the Association, the man who unites us all to shape the monolith, our Executive Director, the Rev. Dr. Giragos Chopourian.

You have just reason to rejoice in them for they have been nurtured in your church. But you have more reason to be proud of yourselves, for, just as that small group of men, whose faith and vision in democracy could never have succeeded, without the faith and vision of the people whose undying love for democracy gave this small group the strength, the vigor and the guts to fight for their beliefs, just so, the leadership of the AMAA through all these years could not have succeeded without your blessings, without your backing and without your love.

The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States give us the unalienable right of freedom of activity in God-given endeavors. They enable us to pursue those ideals which have permeated our souls: the *right* to strive towards the religious cultivation and the spiritual growth of our people; the *right* to give to our poor and needy whatever we can; the *right* to try to lessen the tears of our Armenian Evangelicals suffering in many corners of the world. But recall that in a totalitarian state, even if

one had the desire to help, one *would not be allowed to try*.

Our democracy gives us the freedom of choice; we are allowed to help if we so desire. Since the privilege to give succor, which is denied to the citizens of many countries is granted us, we must take advantage of the opportunity and carry out our mission of charity. The vehicle through which we try is the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

It is a great honor for me to stand at this pulpit which symbolizes the anniversary of the birth of our nation, this nation which gives us the right to exist, and in turn enables the Armenian Missionary Association to perform its appointed tasks;—and a great honor for me to share with you, in humility and thankfulness, this birthday of the AMAA.

The sanctity of sacrifice and the choice of giving is a privilege that is being celebrated by all Churches of the Armenian Evangelical Union during this month. The month of March has been designated Armenian Missionary Month, and this Sunday, we have gathered here to renew our convictions and reaffirm our dedication to those tenets of charity and Christian giving. Hundreds of our fellow Evangelicals have gathered in prayer and worship, one Sunday this month, to rededicate themselves. We are grateful to all pastors, churches and their Missionary Committees for their efforts.

May God grant all of us that further depth and insight to exalt in our beloved Armenian Missionary Association, for as is written in 1 Corinthians 13, verse 13 'And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.'

Following the well-attended worship service, a large number of the membership stayed for lunch at which time the Executive Director showed colored slides of the Lebanon disasters and presented some of the effective projects of the Association in Turkey, Iran and Lebanon. The Missions Committee members, chaired by Mrs. Grace Kavjian, and its efficient treasurer, Mr. Mardi Juskalian, need to be commended highly for an effectively planned program for the day and for quick and efficient handling of contributions received.

## WELCOME AT FIRST ARMENIAN CHURCH OF BELMONT

The Benevolence Committee of the First Armenian Church, under the



First Armenian Church, Belmont, Mass.

guidance of the pastor, the Rev. V. Hartunian, had brought together a fine attendance both at the luncheon and the worship service at which the Executive Director preached the Armenian and English sermons. Pastor Hartunian voiced his pride from the pulpit for the "Sunday after Easter" large attendance. The April 17 Sunday worship service, assisted by superb soloists and an excellent choir, was a worshipful and inspirational one.

Following the luncheon, the Executive Director presented the work of the Association in colored slides and answered many questions following the demonstration. Beirut again was uppermost in the minds of the banqueters.

Thanks and commendations are due to Mrs. Asdrit Khachadourian, Chairman of the Committee, Mrs. Marie Nahigian, Mrs. Flora Gopoiian, the Pastor of the Church and his secretary, Mrs. Angele Hovsepian, as well as all the remaining members of the Missions Committee. It is as we all labor together that we will uplift the effectiveness of our beloved AMAA.

## THE LAST TRIBUTE OF THE HAVERHILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

When the Executive Director preached on April 24th at the Armenian Congregational Church of Haverhill, he was distressed to find out that this would be his last presence there as the church has decided to close its doors as of the end of June due to dwindling attendance. An area that was thickly populated by Armenians is now very

thinly populated due to various sociological and commercial factors. The church is considering transferring its membership to the Ararat Armenian Congregational Church of Salem in an effort to merge. The AMAA Board is grateful for this last tribute of the Church to the AMAA.

The Executive Director presented challenges to numerous families in the area to set up endowment funds and was pleased to have three decisions. One of these decisions is both a sweet and worthy one. Mrs. Ephronia Mugar, wife of the Rev. Dr. Yuhanna Mugar, set up a \$500 endowment fund in honor of her mother on the occasion of Mother's Day. It is indeed a very permanent way of remembering her mother as the income will be used annually for the nursing education of an Armenian student.

Consider establishing an Endowment Fund. Establish your priorities. *We suggest that they be Home, Church and Union, the AMAA.*

## THE EUPHRATES ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PROVIDENCE, R.I.

The Euphrates Congregational Church Chapter, with the assistance of the pastor, opened their doors and hearts wide to the Executive Director who preached the Armenian and English sermons and presented in colored slides the work of the Association to a group of friends following the service. Interest was so intense that the question-answer period lasted for an hour and a half.

The Euphrates Church has been very active and lively in its efforts for AMAA. The Executive Director presented the advisability and necessity of strengthening the AMAA Chapter by appointing a Chairman to the committee to assist Miss Mary Kevorkian, the Secretary-Treasurer. Our thanks go to the Pastor, Miss Kevorkian and her brother Mr. Zenas Kevorkian, Mrs. Baronian and to all the ladies who did such a wonderful job of providing a wholesome atmosphere and fellowship.

## THE MIAMI CHAPTER OF THE AMAA HOLDS ANNUAL BANQUET

Over a 100 guests were present on Saturday evening, April 16th at the

Armenian Parish Hall, Miami. Miss Ruth Philibosian, Life Member on the AMAA Board of Directors, gave a message and presented in colored slides the essential programs of the AMAA. There was excellent response to the appeals and the Chapter has forwarded close to a \$1,000 to the Headquarters.

One important feature of the banquet was that the expenses for the meal were donated by Dr. and Mrs. Berj Markarian, Seeran Ghazarian, George Berberian, Victoria Fredericks, and Mrs. Mary Koshgarian.

The Chairman of the Chapter, Mr. George Berberian, announced to the guests that the AMAA was pleased to recognize the services of Mrs. Mary Koshgarian by presenting her with a plaque with the following inscription: "To Mrs. Mary Koshgarian, a devoted and committed Christian, for loving services rendered to the AMAA in a passionate and compassionate manner for a quarter century."

Signed—Board of Directors"

Hats off to the Miami Chapter for its efforts this year and for the message from the Chapter Chairman that they will attempt even a more successful affair next year.

## ARMENIAN BOOKS FOR U.S. LIBRARIES

Having learned that some anti-Armenians are plotting successfully to remove Armenian books from libraries in the U.S., the AMAA has devised and executed a plan to offer a package of 5 books containing ethnic material at a reduced cost to about 9000 libraries. It is our hope that "Neither to Laugh Nor to Weep," "Golden Age of Armenian Literature," "A Brief History of Armenia," "The Armenian Evangelical Reformation—Causes and Effects" and "Our Armenian Christian Heritage" will find a place in many of the colleges, universities and public libraries all over the U.S. Do you care for a package? We will be glad to send you on having your check for \$9.50.

We have only touched base with main libraries. Should you desire to donate a set to your local library branch, here is your opportunity. For less than \$10.00 you will have "Armenian Presence" in a library!



## THE AMAA AND ITS SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE U.S.

The AMAA Immigration and Resettlement Committee continues its task with deep commitment and efficiency, trying to help fellow Armenians in the numerous adjustments they have to make to their new environment.

The activities of the Program are chaired by Rev. Bernard Guekguezian and executed jointly by him and Miss Sona Hamalian.



Rev. Bernard Guekguezian

Badveli Bernard, with his warm and out-going personality, has been of unusual help in many immigration cases. From his office, located at 140 Forest Ave., Paramus, N.J., Badveli Bernard has provided walk-in services for any Armenian in need of help in counseling, housing, health services, educational services, employment, training and vocational guidance, legal and financial assistance and other special services.

The AMAA Headquarters at 140 Forest Ave., with Sona Hamalian as Resource Personnel, has also been helpful in immigration matters in various ways, such as releasing information on Immigration, providing answers to inquiries, obtaining immigration status for many, and providing guidance. The AMAA has also provided financial assistance by way of loans and relief, mostly the former, which is in the \$20,000 region. This was possible as a result of assistance from the Stephen Philibosian Foundation. Most of those who have been helped financially are now in a position to contribute to the AMAA through personal donations, and those who were helped through loans, are now



Miss Sona Hamalian

able to repay the loans.

A progress report prepared by Rev. Guekguezian and Miss Hamalian acquaints us with the many services of the Program. As the report indicates, during the last six months 30 applicants have been served by being counseled in all areas, and other services rendered included welfare, social security, legal assistance and assistance with any related problems. Some 18 newcomers were helped in finding houses; some 24 obtained employment, training and vocational guidance. Children of 10 immigrant families were placed into colleges and universities and 27 helped through scholarships, and financial assistance and loans were given to some 7 immigrants. Besides these, the Association has health services which include referrals to physicians, psychiatrists and hospital recommendations with many Armenian physicians giving free services to fellow Armenians. Other services include: finding sponsors for immigrants coming from overseas; clearing of personal effects of immigrants from the airport; transportation services; provision of the AMAA offices and other facilities; visitations and telephone reassurance services.

The Association also funds the newly opened Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center in Los Angeles for the first year of its operation, which also enjoys the support of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America and the local churches in its continuing task of helping the Armenian community of Greater Los Angeles.

One of the major achievements of the Armenian Evangelical Social Service Center in the last three months has

been in the field of job placement. More than twenty-five people have been placed in different jobs all over Los Angeles County. Mr. Hratch Baliozian, the Social Worker of the Center, has been twice summoned by an L.A. County social worker for counseling on child abuse cases. The Center has also been immensely helpful in providing the senior citizens with reduced bus fare certificates.

The Center's reputation has spread afar. Last week, a family from Honolulu, having read about the Center in the Armenian Observer, upon arrival to L.A., visited the Center for counseling.



Hratch Baliozian

The Armenian Missionary Association of America looks forward to receiving generous contributions from individuals, organizations and churches to underwrite the cost. *Please send your contributions to the following addresses:*

A.E.S.S.C., 5327 Santa Monica Blvd.  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90029  
or the  
A.M.A.A. Headquarters, 140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 07652



Mr. Harry Balukjian, Chairman, Spiritual Life Committee (see page 11)

## PRAYER CALENDAR FOR EACH DAY IN ANY ONE MONTH

### Memorandum From the AMAA Spiritual Life Committee

The Prayer Calendar below is provided as an aid for individuals and missionary chapters to ask for God's guidance and strength for the work of the AMAA. The AMAA IS THE MISSIONARY ARM OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL UNION and serves in outreach to twelve countries located in North and South America, Europe, the Middle East and Australia. Churches may find it possible to include these prayer requests in their weekly bulletin—“Wherefore, also, we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power: that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you and ye in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thess. 1:11,12)

#### DAY OF MONTH

##### 1. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

*Pray for wisdom and inspiration for the 21 elected Board members and the immediate past President who makes the 22nd member of the Board. They are all individuals who serve their churches and find time for the missionary outreach of the Association also. Fervent prayers on their behalf can only further the effectiveness of the outreach of the Association.*

##### 2. THE SIX-MEMBER STAFF OF THE A.M.A.A.

*Pressed with the daily details of work which involves all the way from menial work to promotion and human contacts and counselling, they need a reservoir of strength which your prayers can provide.*

##### 3. THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE PASTORS AND BOARDS.

*Like anything else, churches and their leadership can get into a rut. Let our prayers beseech Almighty God to pour the power of the Holy Spirit on leaders and members of the churches.*

##### 4. THE MODERATOR AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES OF NORTH AMERICA.

*The Moderator and the 11 members of his Executive Council are dedicated to strengthening the total impact of the Armenian Evangelical churches upon the redeemed and the unredeemed. They need to be upheld by fervent prayers.*

##### 5. THE HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Committed to the upholding of the work of the Haigazian College and to making it an effective tool for the training of leaders through education, the Trustees need our encouragement through our prayers.*

##### 6. THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES IN FRANCE.

*The Armenian Evangelical Union of France and its churches continue in their Christian witness in that European outpost. They are praying for a reformation in their midst and in the entire Armenian Evangelical World, and to that end are seeking the prayers of all the faithful.*

##### 7. THE UNION OF THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES IN THE NEAR EAST.

*Comprising of churches in Syria, Lebanon, Greece, Turkey and Iran, they too are engaged in promoting the Kingdom of God and to that end are seeking the prayers of all the faithful.*

##### 8. THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL SCHOOLS IN THE NEAR EAST AND THE HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE.

*The Armenian Evangelical movement has created a school system from Kindergarten through University making the schools in the system tools for Christian Education. Prayers are sought that all these mediums of the Armenian Evangelical Movement may become centers of enlightenment, reform and inspiration.*

##### 9. THE AMAA MISSIONARY TO TEHERAN.

*Mrs. Arpine (Mahshigian) Aghabegian was commissioned by the Armenian Evangelical Union and the expenses funded by the Armenian Missionary Association of America to do Child Evangelism and Youth Work in Teheran. She has been involved in teaching the Bible at the Gohar Mesrobian school, Child Evangelism in Teheran and three suburban sections, Youth Conferences, Bible Study Gatherings, Daily Vacation Bible School, Sunday School and Camps. Let us uphold her hands and sustain her confidence by our prayers.*

##### 10. AMAA CHAPTERS AND MISSIONS COMMITTEES IN THE U.S.

*Let us pray that our Chapters and Missions Committees may be given wisdom and guidance in their efforts to promote missionary ideals and to raise funds for their missionary organization—the AMAA.*

##### 11. AMAA DISTRICT COMMITTEES OVERSEAS.

*Let us pray for the District Committees in Iran, in the Middle East, Argentina, Uruguay and Brasil that they may be given wisdom and guidance in their efforts of promoting missionary ideals and in raising funds for their missionary organization—the AMAA.*

##### 12. ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL LIFE IN BRASIL.

*The Christian brethren in Brasil, chiefly centered in Sao Paulo, feel isolated and covet our friendship and prayers which in turn will encourage them in the Christian witnessing they are engaged in.*

##### 13. ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL LIFE IN URUGUAY.

*The Christian brethren in Uruguay, chiefly centered in Montevideo, feel isolated and covet our friendship and prayers which in turn will encourage them in the Christian witnessing they are engaged in.*

##### 14. ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL LIFE IN ARGENTINA.

*The Christian brethren in Argentina, chiefly centered in Buenos Aires, feel isolated and covet our friendship and prayers which in turn will encourage them in the Christian witnessing they are engaged in.*

##### 15. ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL LIFE IN AUSTRALIA.

*The Christian brethren in Australia, chiefly centered in Sydney, feel isolated and covet our friendship and prayers which in turn will encourage them in the Christian witnessing they are engaged in.*

##### 16. ISTANBUL YOUTH HOME.

*Mr. Guzelian and his large staff are engaged in the reconstruction of the patriotic and religious condition of youth in the interior of Turkey who have lost their Armenian national and Armenian Christian identity. Many of the children have come to know Christ. Let us pray that those who have come to know Christ may be faithful and that others may be added to their number.*

##### 17. ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL LIFE IN ISTANBUL, TURKEY.

*With the continual reduction of membership in Armenian Evangelical Churches in Istanbul, Evangelical life is almost withering. Let us pray that a Christian leader may be found for that barren area and for increased commitment on the part of the existing membership.*

##### 18. ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL LIFE IN CANADA.

*With increasing immigration to Canada, three Armenian Evangelical churches have already come into existence in Toronto and Canada. In addition there are “pockets” where a small number of Armenians have settled and the opportunities for “missions” or “Churches” are available. Let us pray that God may provide leaders and courage to those in leadership to move forward in creating centers of worship.*

##### 19. MINISTERS-AT-LARGE.

*Some 20 or more Armenian Evangelical ministers live in retired*



status for one reason or another. Let us pray that our wisdom, experience and talents are utilized for the promotion of the Kingdom of God by the help of all of us.

20. ARMENIAN CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE U.S.

Let us sincerely remember in prayer the work of charitable organizations such as the Armenian General Benevolent Union of America, the Armenian Relief Society, the Jinishian Memorial Foundation, the Karageuzian Institute and others in addition to our own Armenian Missionary Association.

21. HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE EASTERN COMMITTEE.

Let us pray for the 21 years of the College and its educational achievements and pray that through the efforts and appeals of the Eastern Committee the College may have the funds to continue its educational endeavors.

22. THE NEEDS OF OUR BRETHREN IN LEBANON.

Let us pray that as a service organization we succeed in our endeavors to help our brethren in Lebanon in their needs and inject warmth and human touch to make life hopeful for those of our brethren witnessing human acts of terror.

23. THE INTER-DENOMINATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL, LEBANON.

Let us pray for the ongoing work of Mrs. Hasmig Collier who so devotedly has continued her evangelism among our youth despite the disturbances in Lebanon.

24. ORCHANIAN: AMAA EVANGELIST TO SYRIA.

Let us pray for the evangelistic work of our spiritual brother in Syria, Barkev Orchanian, whose energetic endeavors have been fruitful to our people in the interior of Syria.

25. GEORGE IWAZ: AMAA WORKER AMONG THE ASSYRIANS.

Let us pray for his work among the Assyrians so that the Assyrian church may flourish and that the Kingdom of God may be promoted through our Assyrian brethren in Lebanon.

26. ARMENIAN MISSIONARIES AMONG NON-ARMENIANS

There are numerous Armenians who are engaged in mission work through non-Armenian associations and among non-Armenians. Among those we need to remember Dr. Cynthia Berberian Hale in Nepal, Mr. Garabed Topalian in the interior of Brasil and Mr. Serge Krikorian.

27. REV. Y. SARMAZIAN: OUR MISSIONARY TO DORA, LEBANON.

We pray for Rev. Sarmazian and his evangelistic mission in the Dora Church. We hope that peace will prevail in Lebanon and his endeavors flourish.

28. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF AMAA AND THE AMAA PRESIDENT.

29. ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL YOUTH IN THE U.S. AND THEIR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.

Prayers should concentrate on our Evangelical youth in the U.S. so that their Christian endeavors may become means of salvation to many.

30. PRAYERS FOR THE UNIVERSAL ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT.

Your prayers should ask God to bring a revival in the universal Armenian Evangelical endeavors in the Americas, Europe, Australia and the Middle East. Let us pray that God may lead each one of us to inspire our people to become children of God. Pray for unity of heart and mind.

31. GRATITUDE TO PAST LEADERS.

Let us thank God for the past leadership of the AMAA. Their endeavors brought the Association to a status of effective service.

The following books have been offered to College, University and main Public libraries in the United States. Single copies or the package of 5 books at a reduced price may be ordered with the use of the coupon below. If you want "Armenian Presence" in your local library, why not order a set for placement in your local library. Mail coupon to:

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.  
140 FOREST AVENUE, PARAMUS, N.J. 07652

Gentlemen: Please send me

- ☐ Copy (ies) @ \$5.75 per copy of *THE ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL REFORMATION—CAUSES AND EFFECTS* by G.H. Chopourian
- ☐ Copy (ies) @ \$2.50 per copy of *A BRIEF HISTORY OF ARMENIA* by Sarkis Papajian
- ☐ Copy (ies) @ \$2.25 per copy of *NEITHER TO LAUGH NOR TO WEEP* by A.H. Hartunian
- ☐ Copy (ies) @ \$2.00 per copy of *THE GOLDEN AGE IN THE FIFTH CENTURY* by A. A. Bedikian
- ☐ Copy (ies) @ \$1.50 per copy of *OUR ARMENIAN CHRISTIAN HERITAGE* By G.H. Chopourian

☐ Package (s) of all five books @ \$9.50 per package.

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
PLEASE BILL US ☐

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

(please print)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## Հայերէն բաժին

### ՆԱՄԱԿ ՍԱՆ ԲԱՒԼՈՅԻ ՀԱՅ ԱԻԵ-ՏԱՐԱՆԱԿԱՆ ԿԵԴՐ. ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՒՆ

Պատուարժան Նախագահ,  
Մեծայարգ Վարիչ Տնօրէն  
եւ Յարգելի Անդամներ  
Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանչական  
Ընկերակցութեան Վարչական  
Խորհուրդի, Փարամըս, Ա.Մ.Ն.

Սիրելի եղբայրներ ի Քրիստոս,

Մեր Տէրոջ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի ա-  
նունով կ'ողջունենք ձեզ եւ կ'աղո-  
թենք որ Աստուած Հաստատէ ձեզ ա-  
մէն բարի գործի մէջ իր կամքը ընե-  
լու եւ իր փառքին համար ծառայե-  
լու: Երբ. ԺԳ. 28:

Անխառն ուրախութեամբ է որ ձեզի  
կը հաղորդենք թէ այս տարի, Տէրոջը  
շնորհքով, մեր եկեղեցին կը բոլորէ  
իր կազմութեան 50րդ տարեդարձը:  
Մեզի համար պատմական նշանակու-  
թիւն ունեցող այս հանգրուանին,  
գոհութիւն եւ փառաբանութիւն կը  
մատուցանենք մեր Երկնաւոր Հօր որ  
անցնող հինգ տասնամեակներուն իր  
շնորհքին տակ պահեց մեր եկեղեցին  
եւ անոր միջոցաւ առիթ ընծայեց մե-  
զի Քրիստոսի Փրկութեան Աւետա-  
րանը քարոզելու ու հոգեւոր ծառա-  
յութիւն մատուցանելու Սան Փաւլոս-  
յի Հայ գաղութին ու մեր շրջապա-  
տին: Յիսնամեակի այս ուրախ առի-  
թով, երախտագիտական յատուկ ըզ-  
գացումներով է որ կը յիշենք նաեւ  
ձեզ ու փառք կուտանք Աստուծոյ  
Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանչական  
Ընկերակցութեան համար որ անցնող  
յիսնամեակին, բարոյական թէ նիւ-  
թական օժանդակութեամբ, թիկունք  
կանգնեցաւ մեր եկեղեցւոյ ձեռ-  
նարկներուն ու ծրագիրներուն եւ  
հոգեւոր քաջալերութիւն հանդիսա-  
ցաւ մեր եղբայրներուն: Արդարեւ,  
կարելի չէ մոռնալ մեր եկեղեցիին  
ընծայած ձեռնարկական օժանդա-  
կութիւնը. կարելի չէ մոռնալ մեզի  
հանդէպ ցուցաբերած ձեռնարկա-  
կան հոգածութիւնը եւ սէրը: Ասոնց  
բոլորին համար փառք կուտանք Աս-  
տուծոյ եւ կ'աղօթենք որ Տէրը ալ ա-  
ւելիով օրհնէ մեր բոլորին ծառայու-  
թիւնը իր փառքին համար:

Ահաւասիկ այս զբաղումներով է  
որ անխառն սիրով կուգանք ձեզի  
հետ բաժնեկցիլ մեր եկեղեցւոյ Յիս-

նամեայ Յորեւանէն բխող մեր ու-  
րախութիւնը, միեւնոյն ատեն խընդ-  
րելով Աստուծոյ որ շնորհէ մեզի ի-  
մաստութիւնը, որպէսզի կարենանք  
յարատեւ նուիրումով գործել Անոր  
թագաւորութեան համար: Ներկայ  
նամակով, պաշտօնապէս եւ մեծ հա-  
ճոյքով կուգանք նաեւ հրաւիրելու  
ձեզ, յառաջիկայ ամիսներուն տեղի  
ունենալիք մեր յորեւանական հան-  
դիսութիւններուն: Ինչպէս տարբեր  
առիթներով յայտնած էինք ձեռնար-  
կիչ Տնօրէնին, մեր մեծ փափաքն է որ  
ձեր Վարիչ Տնօրէնը եւ  
կամ ձեզ ներկայացնող Հովիւ մը մե-  
զի հետ ըլլայ մեր Յորեւանական  
հանդիսութիւններուն եւ իր գործօն  
մասնակցութիւնը բերէ ծրագրուած  
հանդիսութիւններուն եւ յատկապէս  
պաշտամունքներուն կատարման:  
Վստահ ըլլալով որ ձեր ներկայացու-  
ցիչին ներկայութիւնը հոգեւոր մեծ  
քաջալերութիւն պիտի ըլլայ մեր ե-  
կեղեցւոյ եղբայրներուն եւ անգամ  
մը եւս պիտի հաստատէ ու ամրապն-  
դէ մեր միջեւ գոյութիւն ունեցող եղ-  
բայրական սիրոյ կապերը, ակըն-  
կառոյց կը սպասենք ձեր դրական  
պատասխանին ու ձեր Վարիչ Տնօրէ-  
նին եւ կամ ձեր ներկայացուցիչ  
Հովիւին գալստեան:

Ներփակ կը գտնէք մեր ծրագրած  
յորեւանական գործունէութիւններու  
յայտագրէն օրինակ մը: Կը խնդրենք  
ձեզմէ որ աղօթէք անոր գործադրու-  
թեան օրհնաբերութեան համար:  
Ինչպէս ի յայտ կուգայ այս յայտա-  
գրէն, յորեւանական հոգեւոր բնոյ-  
թով ձեռնարկները կը սկսին Կիրա-  
կի, Յունիս 19ին տեղի ունենալիք  
մեր նորընտիր սարկաւազներու ձեռ-  
նադրութեան պաշտամունքով: Կ'ու-  
զէինք ձեր ազնիւ նկատառութեան  
թով իսկ մեր մօտ ըլլար Ձեր Վարիչ  
Տնօրէնը, որպէսզի, որպէս Ձեռնա-  
դրեալ Հովիւ, ինքը կատարէր  
սարկաւազներուն ձեռնադրութիւ-  
նը եւ նաեւ անոր յաջորդող Կիրակին  
տեղի ունենալիք մեր եկեղեցւոյնքի  
նուիրման պաշտամունքը:

Ձեր ազնիւ նկատառութեան յանձ-  
նելով մեր փափաքը եւ խնդրանքը,  
անգամ մը եւս կը վստահեցնենք  
ձեզի թէ յաջատեւօրէն աղօթող ենք  
ձեզի համար եւ ձեր գլխաւորած Ըն-  
կերակցութեան օրհնաբեր ծառայու-  
թեան համար:

Հաճեցէք ընդունիլ եղբայրական  
սիրոյ մեր ջերմ ողջոյնները ու սըր-  
տագին բարեմաղթութիւնները:

Ի Դիմաց  
Սան Փաւլոսի Հայ Աւետարանական  
Կեդրոնական Եկեղեցիի  
Արսէնի Պիլեզիքեան՝ Ատենապետ  
Գրիգոր Մընչերեան՝ Ատենադպիր  
Պատ. Մ. Պ. Զանպազեան՝  
Հոգեւոր Հովիւ

Կիրակի, 19 Յունիս—Ձեռնարկութիւն ՆՈՐ ՍԱՐԿԱՒԱԳՆԵՐՈՒ ԵՒ  
ՀԱՒԱՔԱԿԱՆ ԶԱՇ

Կիրակի, 26 Յունիս—ԵԿԵՂԵՑԱՇԵՆՔԻ ՆՈՒԻՐՄԱՆ ՊԱՇՏԱՄՈՒՆՔ ԵՒ  
ԲԱՑՈՒՄ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՈՅ ՅԻՍՆԱՄԵԱՅ ԿԵԱՆՔ Ը  
ՆԵՐԿԱՅԱՑՆՈՂ ՑՈՒՑԱՀԱՆԴԵՍԻՆ

Յունիս 26—Յուլիս 2—ԱԻԵՏԱՐԱՆԶԱԿԱՆ ՊԱՇՏԱՄՈՒՆՔՆԵՐ

Կիրակի, 3, Յուլիս—ԳՈՀԱՐԱՆԱԿԱՆ ՊԱՇՏԱՄՈՒՆՔ ՈՒ ՀԱՂՈՐԴՈՒԹԻՒՆ  
ՀԱՅ ԱԻԵՏԱՐԱՆԱԿԱՆ ՕՐՈՒԱՅ ԱՌԹԻՒՆ ԵՒ  
ՅԻՍՆԱՄԵԱՅ ՑՈՐԵԼԻՆԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՆԴԻՍՈՒԹԻՒՆ

Յուլիս 4—8—ԵՐԻՏԱՍԱՐԴԱՅ ԲԱՆԱԿՈՒՄ

Ուրբաթ, 8 Յուլիս—ՑՈՐԵԼԻՆԱԿԱՆ ՀԱՅԿԵՐՈՅԹ

Եւ «Վստահ ըլլալով թէ Ան որ ձեր մէջ բարի գործ մը սկսաւ,  
Մինչեւ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի Օրը պիտի կատարէ»: Փիլիպ. Ա. 6:



# OBITUARIES

## LEON SARKIS

May 10, 1922 - April 6, 1977

*The Executive Director, former pastor of Leon Sarkis, was requested by the family to participate in the services. He had followed Leon's illness carefully and had been in prayer that God might have performed a miracle in his case. It was the Executive Director's privilege to participate in the services which became a source of strength to him because of the lasting impression that the evaluation of his personality and character made upon him.*

*We reproduce below the statement of his present pastor, the Rev. Dr. Peter B. Doghramji:*

Leon D. Sarkis was born on May 10, 1922, in Tabriz, Iran. In 1923 he came to Philadelphia with his family, Dr. Eleazar and Mrs. Anna Sarkis, brothers James, Fred, and Henry, and sister Angelina. Dr. Sarkis was a beloved physician and the Sarkises came to be loved by the entire Armenian Community of Greater Philadelphia.

Leon attended Wyoming Seminary, a preparatory school in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., for three years. He always spoke warmly about this school, its discipline, its Christian atmosphere, and the attention it gave to its students. He then went to the University of Pennsylvania School of Engineering until he was drafted into the U.S. Army infantry division in July, 1943. He fought for his country in France and in Germany where he was seriously wounded in battle. He was honorably discharged in 1946 and received the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Theatre Ribbon, the Victory Medal, and the European Theatre Ribbon with one Bronze Service Star.

Leon resumed his College education following the War, and graduated from Temple University School of Business in 1949. He worked for the Kuljian Corporation as an accountant, and from 1952 to 1956 he worked in Detroit as office manager for the Corporation which had a contract with the Ford Motor Co. He worked for the U.S. Government from 1964 to 1969, and was Office Manager for James J. Shelly from 1969 to 1974.



Alice and Leon Sarkis on the occasion of their 25th Wedding Anniversary

An event of lasting significance and joy was his happy marriage to Alice Hachikian on October 20th, 1951. While in Detroit, the Lord blessed them with their first child, Ann, and after their return to the Philadelphia area, Edward and Isabel were added to the family. Since 1964 they have lived in Springfield, Pa., and have been concurrently members of the Armenian Martyrs' Congregational Church in Havertown, Pa. The couple celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in 1976. Over the years, Leon belonged to the Masons, the Knights of Vartan, the Kiwanis, and more recently, to Christian Concern, Inc., an organization related to the United Church of Christ administering retirement and old age homes.

The Church meant a great deal to Leon, and he worked wholeheartedly in various organizations of the fellowship. He served as Treasurer, Auditor, Chairman of the Stewardship Committee, Usher, Trustee, Deacon, President of the Men's Fellowship, and a member of the Missionary Committee. For many years he was the Treasurer of the Philadelphia Chapter of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc., an organization which he loved and supported. He strongly believed in the missionary outreach of the Church and in Stewardship, and demonstrated it by word and act.

Leon was called home on April 6, Wednesday of Holy Week, having the premonition that Easter was the date of his departure. For three years he fought valiantly an illness that debilitated him, yet he was faithful, hopeful, contented and happy until the very end. A memorial service was held on Good Friday at 8:00 p.m. in the Church, and the Funeral Service and Interment were held the following day at 11:00 a.m. The Rev. Dr. Giragos Cho-

pourian, the Executive Director of the AMAA and our former pastor, assisted our pastor in all these Services. A memorial luncheon was prepared by the men and women of the Church following burial.

We will all miss Leon very much in our fellowship. We thank the Lord for his life which enriched ours, and we pray the living God to comfort, console, and strengthen his dear wife, Alice, and his lovely children, Ann, Edward, and Isabel.

The AMAA Board would like to take this opportunity to extend its heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA News.

- |                           |                       |                    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. E. Najarian           | Reading, Pa.          | July 1, 1976       |
| Mr. Haroethun Nahapetian  | Tehran, Iran          | September 20, 1976 |
| Mr. John Tabibian         | Southfield, Mich.     | November 5, 1976   |
| Mr. Sahag Avedissian      | Rehobach, Mass.       | November 20, 1976  |
| *Mr. Dickran Yemenijian   | Springfield, Mass.    | January 26, 1977   |
| Miss Beth Gouljian        | Oradell, N.J.         | February 17, 1977  |
| Mr. Nazareth Nazarian     | Hollywood, Ca.        | March 13, 1977     |
| *Rev. Arsen Goergizian    | Providence, R.I.      | March 21, 1977     |
| *Mr. Armen Garoian        | Cranston, R.I.        | March, 1977        |
| Mrs. Shegoian             | San Francisco, Ca.    | March 22, 1977     |
| *Miss Margaret Dalkranian | Miami, Fla.           | March 27, 1977     |
| Mrs. Aghavni Boujicanian  | Fairlawn, N.J.        | March, 1977        |
| *Mr. Leon Sarkis          | Springfield, Pa.      | April 6, 1977      |
| *Mr. Armen Gostanian      | Fresno, Ca.           | April 10, 1977     |
| *Mr. Hagop Yacoubian      | Bethesda, Maryland    | April 10, 1977     |
| *Mrs. Betty Gertmenian    | Pasadena, Ca.         | April 18, 1977     |
| Mr. Haik Kavookjian       | New York, N.Y.        | April 26, 1977     |
| Mr. Paul Dagdigian        | Lansdowne, Pa.        | April, 1977        |
| Mr. Hagop Salibian        | Beirut, Lebanon       | April, 1977        |
| *Mrs. Newart Agabashian   | Alama, Ca.            |                    |
| Mr. John Bagdoian         | Methuen, Mass.        |                    |
| Mr. Nishan Bizdikian      | Coral Gables, Fla.    |                    |
| *Mr. Harry Bodourian      | Jackson Heights, N.Y. |                    |
| *Mr. Phillip Emerzian     | Fresno, Ca.           |                    |

\*Signifies that memorials were designated for AMAA.

## BOOKS, BOOKLETS AND RECORDS RECEIVED

CHUNKOOSH Sarkis Papajian  
Crown Printing Co., Fresno, CA. 1976, pp. 29, \$1.00  
*This little pamphlet is published to keep the younger generation of Chunkooshtsis informed about the origin of their parents and about the experiences some of them faced.*

CAN ISRAEL AND ARABS BE RECONCILED?  
Hagop A. Chakmakjian, Th. D.  
Sponsors, Easton United Presbyterian Church, Fresno, Ca. 1976, pp. 162, \$1.00  
*This booklet contains the manuscripts of ten lectures by the author on the historical, racial, cultural, political and religious backgrounds of the people involved in the struggle for possession of the "The Promised Land". It deals with the Palestinian conflict in Biblical perspective.*

THE TRAGEDY OF ARMENIA Henry Morgenthau  
New Age Publishers, Plandome, N.Y. 1975, pp. 16, \$0.60  
*This is a memorial edition honoring Henry Morgenthau, friend and benefactor of the Armenian people. Designed to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.*

THE HORRORS OF ALEPPO Dr. Martin Niepage  
New Age Publishers, Plandome, N.Y. 1975, pp. 24, \$0.75  
*This memorial edition is also designed to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.*

CLASSICAL ARMENIAN SHORT STORIES  
Translated by Sarkis Ashjian  
Aramazt Pub. House, Beirut, 1959, pp. 169, \$2.50  
*This is a book of 21 short stories of foremost Armenian writers translated into English. Sarkis Ashjian, graduate of A.U.B., is poet, short-story writer and translator, and as such he has some twenty volumes to his credit.*

A CHRISTIAN'S RESPONSE TO ISLAM  
William M. Miller  
Presbyterian and Reformed Pub. Co., Nutley, N.J. 1976, pp. 175, \$3.50  
*Deals with the history, doctrines and practices of Islam, explains the inadequacy of Islam to meet man's deepest needs, and places responsibility and privilege on Christians to share the Gospel with the 600 million Muslims of the world.*

ADVENTURES IN TRAINING THE MINISTRY  
Kenneth B. Mulholland  
Presbyterian and Reformed Pub. Co., Nutley, N.J., 1976, pp. 208, \$5.95  
*Opens up the exciting new innovations of the theological education by extension to the Western reader, and provides an introduction to a movement which began in 1962 and by 1972 had enrolled nearly 14,000 theological students.*

TODAY'S PASTOR IN TOMORROW'S WORLD  
Carnegie Samuel Calian  
Hawthorn Books, Inc., N.Y., 1977, pp. 135, \$6.95  
*The author presents a broad view of the problems that today's minister faces, what the future will be like, and then gives practical suggestions for solutions pointing toward a hopeful rebirth of pastoral leadership in the days ahead*

*specially when pastors become grass-roots theologians. The book is one that will be widely used by students preparing for the ministry, by teachers responsible for their training, and by practicing clergy and laity for a critical examination of what they do week by week. (The AMAA has stocked 100 copies and will be glad to receive orders).*

ARSHA'S WORLD AND YOURS  
Arsha Louise Armaghanian  
Vantage Press, Inc., N.Y., 1977, pp. 96, \$4.95  
*This depicts the true story of Arsha, whose peaceful life was suddenly disrupted in 1915 by the order of the Turkish government to dislodge the 200,000 Armenian families in Ada Bazaar of whom only 500 families returned after the attempt at genocide. Her and her family's providential escape and her early years in the United States are told with poignancy. (Orders may be made through the AMAA).*

SPRING, THE ARTIST AND OTHER POEMS  
Hampar K. Tufenkjian  
Vantage Press, Inc., N.Y., 1977, pp. 72, \$4.95  
*Tufenkjian's poems celebrate nature, love of wife and family, pleasures and responsibilities of retirement and transmit the indomitable spirit of youth.*

RECORDS RECEIVED:  
ARMENIAN ART SONGS—sung by Lucina Agbabian Hubbard  
Orion Master Recordings, Inc., Malibu, Ca., 1977, \$6.98  
*A beautiful selection of 19 songs from 10 composers including Alemshah, Alan Hovhanness, Komitas and so forth sung with sensitivity and authenticity of interpretation. Her temperamental affinity to Armenian music coupled with her beautiful and instantly recognizable vocal timbre put her in a unique position to give these art songs the listening they deserve. Get it! (Available from the AMAA offices).*

ARMENIAN BOOKS FOR REVIEW  
MER UNPAKHD PAKHDU Jirayr Gregorian  
Ani Press, Tehran, 1977, pp. 40.  
*In poetry form, a personal outlook on life and destiny.*

MANGAVARJAGAN ZUROUTYSNER Armen Donoyan  
Sevan Printing House, Beirut, 1973, pp. 145, \$3.00  
*A book dealing with problems such as parenthood, psychology and life, child development and personality. The book has been translated into Arabic and Persian and is being used as textbook in the Pedagogy Department of the Persian University.*

YERGOO LOOYS  
Sarkis Avak Kahana Antreassian  
New York, 1976, pp. 168, \$10.00  
*A book that deals with Christianity, Church and Culture of the Armenian people.*

PUNOOTYAN PAROYAGAN ORENKU YEV  
MARTGAYIN ISHKHANOUTYOUNNER  
Bali Kevork Balian  
Hairenik, Boston Pub., 1976, pp. 100, \$4.00  
*A book dedicated to the memory of the martyrs of justice and defines the question of law, state, Christianity and their relationship.*



ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

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## JULY 4TH PICNIC

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We are pleased to announce a July 4th Picnic  
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at the

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION  
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THE ARMENIAN PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH COMPLEX

140 Forest Avenue, Paramus, N.J.

A DELICIOUS SHISH-KEBAB DINNER MENUE

Serving to Begin at 1:00 p.m. and continue  
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plus

Children's Activities—Door Prizes

WE WELCOME ALL FROM NEW JERSEY, NEW  
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The Tour will include Armenia and the seven old churches  
in Asia listed in Revelations

Projected date: SEPTEMBER 1978

(It has not been possible to arrange for 1977. No hotel  
bookings available)

Interested? If yes, please fill out our Advance Reservation Coupon  
below so we can inform you of all details as they develop. A deposit  
will be requested when expenses are itemized fully.

### ADVANCE RESERVATION COUPON

I/we wish to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats on the AMAA Group Tour  
to Armenia and the Seven Churches in Asia. This does not ob-  
ligate us to join until we have made a deposit of money.

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